GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2020
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2015
Review of Outdated Laws
Basheer Shri E. T. Mohammed;Bharathi Mohan Shri R.K.;Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of progress achieved regarding repealing of obsolete/outdated Acts/Laws in the Country;

(b) the present status of the action taken on the recommendations given by the Law Commission of India and various other committees including the Committee chaired by Shri R.Ramanujan on the subject;

(c) the total number of such laws identified to be repealed along with the number of such laws repealed so far during 2014-15; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expedite the process?

Answer

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2020 to be answered on 10-12-2015 regarding "Review of Outdated Laws".

(a) to (d):Review of all laws with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. The Two- member Committee chaired by Shri R. Ramanujan has, inter alia identified a total number of 1741 Acts for repeal and the Law Commission of India has, inter alia identified 289 obsolete Acts for repeal in their Reports No. 248th, 249th, 250th and 251st on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal".

Further, on the issue of repealing of obsolete Central laws that have outlived their utility, the Government has examined the said reports and has identified 777 Central Actsfor repeal wholly or in part. 83 Central Acts relating to State subjects are to be repealed by State Legislatures. 624 Central Appropriation Acts enacted upto the year 2010 and 257 Appropriation Acts enacted by Parliament for the States under President's Rule are to be repealed by the States. The Government has also examined the 248th, 249th, 250th and 251st Reports of Law Commission on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal" where it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively.

On the basis of the comments/views of the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments, "The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014" proposing to repeal 35 Acts has been enacted by Parliament as Act No. 17 of 2015 and "the Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2014" proposing to repeal 90 obsolete amending Acts has been enacted as Act No. 19 of 2015. Further, the Government has also introduced a Bill, namely, "the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015" seeking to repeal 758 Appropriation Acts which has been passed by Lok Sabha and is pending in Rajya Sabha. Also "the Repealing and Amending (Third) Bill, 2015" seeking to repeal 295 Acts has been passed by Lok Sabha and is pending in Rajya Sabha. The Government is actively pursuing the matter to repeal the Acts identified for repeal. Total 1827 Acts have been identified for repeal and 125 Acts were repealed during 2014-15.